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ABSTRACT

The American Library Association (ALA) Library/Book Fellows program began in 1986 with a grant from the U.S. Information Agency. The program's purpose is threefold: (1) to increase international understanding through the establishment of professional and personal relationships and the accomplishment of mutual goals; (2) to promote international sharing of resources and increase access to U.S. materials in the host country; and (3) to enable U.S. librarians and publishers to enrich and broaden their career experience through a short period of overseas service. The bulk of the report consists of profiles of the 1990-91 fellows highlighting their overseas experiences. The fellows are: (1) Mary M. Wagner from the College of St. Catherine (Minnesota), who went to the Institute of Southern Africa Studies at the National University of Lesotho in Roma, Lesotho; (2) Lucinda Covert-Vail from San Francisco State University, who went to the Universidad Complutense de Madrid in Spain; (3) J. David Martin from the University of Iowa, who went to Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela; (4) James Krikelas from the University of Wisconsin, who went to the University of Crete in Rethymnon, Crete, Greece; (5) Michael S. Perdreau from Ohio University, who went to the National Library of Haiti in Port-au-Prince, Haiti; (6) Thomas Connors from the Bancroft Group in Los Angeles who went to the National Archives of Pakistan in Islamabad, Pakistan; (7) Wendy A. Simmons from the University of Maryland-College Park, who went to the University of Botswana in Gabarone, Botswana; (8) Artemis G. Kirk from Simmons College (Massachusetts), who went to the Urban Council Public Libraries in Hong Kong; and (9) Anne Mustain from the University of Virginia, who went to the University of the West Indies, Faculty of Law Library, in Bridgetown, Barbados. (MES)

THE LIBRARY/BOOK FELLOWS - 1990-91

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Port Moller
Herendeen Bay
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Umnak
Atka
Tanaga
St. Paul Island
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Nelson
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Tununak
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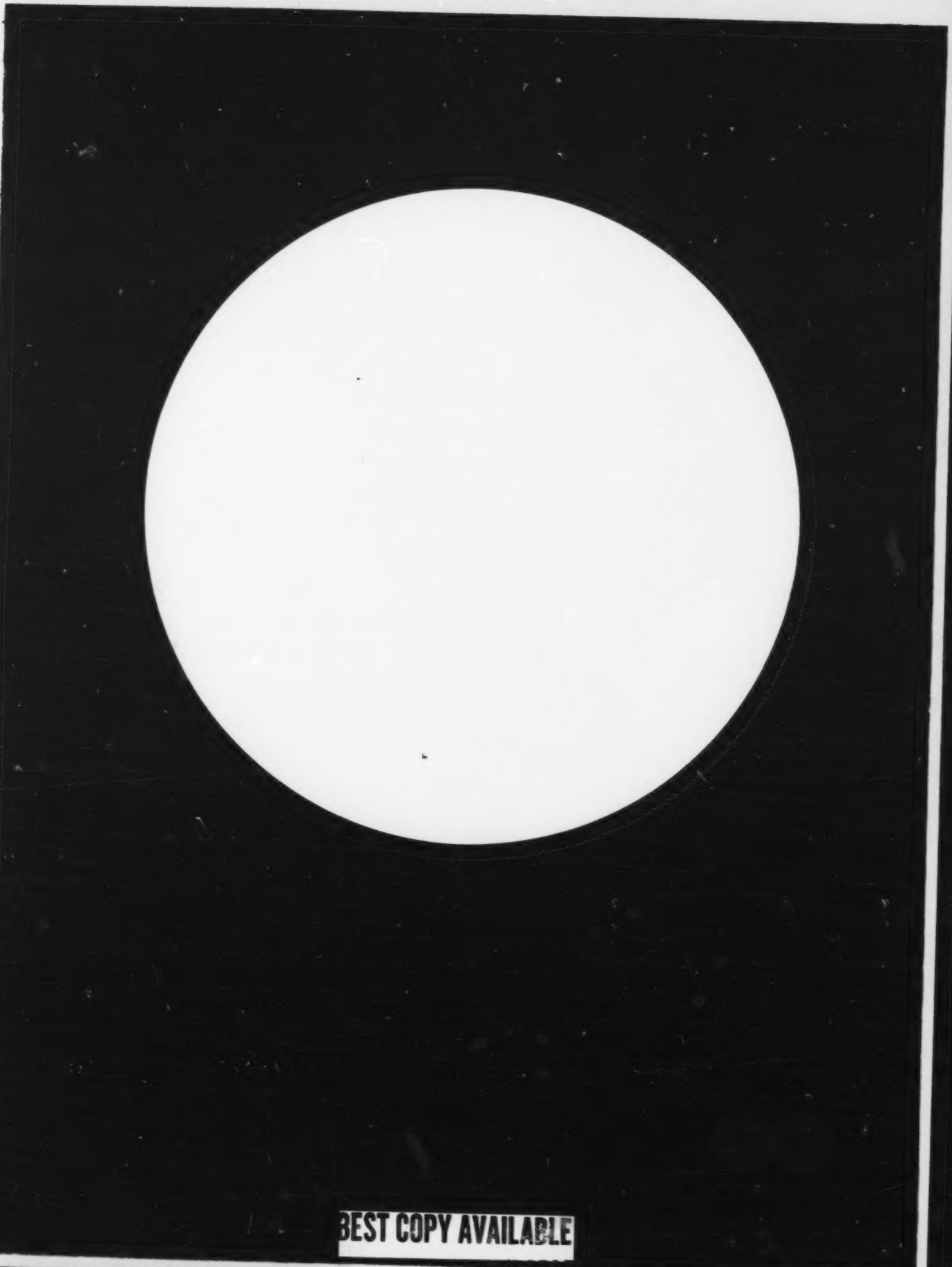
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Eek
Napaskiak
Nunapitchuk
Kasigluk
Akiachak
Akiak
Tuluksak
Lower Kalskag
Aniak
Sleetmute
Stony River
McGrath
Takotna
Ophir
Iditarod
Flat
Ruby
Poorman
Nixon Fork
Marshall
Mountain Village
Pilot Station
Russian Mission
Kwethluk
Tuntutuliak
Eek
Quinhagak
Goodnews Bay
Platinum
Togiak
Manokotak
Aleknagik
Dillingham
Ekwok
New Stuyahok
Koliganek
Newhalen
Iliamna
Pedro Bay
Nondalton
Lake Clark
Port Alsworth
Tyonek
Beluga
Kenai
Soldotna
Sterling
Homer
Seldovia
Kachemak Bay
Kodiak
Chiniak
Old Harbor
Ouzinkie
Port Lions
Afognak
Larsen Bay
Karluk
Akhiok
Kaguyak
Alitak
Chignik
Chignik Lake
Chignik Lagoon
Perryville
Ivanof Bay
Port Heiden
Meshik
Pilot Point
Ugashik
Egegik
Naknek
King Salmon
Katmai
Kukaklek
Iliamna
Newhalen



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"IN A

world divided by ideology, by trade

barriers, by military threats and nuclear fears, we

librarians are not powerless. We are the ambassadors of an

indivisible world—of culture and books and ideas. Unfortunately,

we are not plenipotentiary. But there is no country in the world

where librarians cannot make some small progress toward removing

the boundaries and lowering the barriers which separate cultures and

which are sponsored by citizens or by governments. Every librarian,

regardless of his government's policy, has the opportunity, if he

has the courage, to open the avenues of books and ideas a little

wider. . . . We must try to make the world of books more

open—so that men and women everywhere may

breathe freely the uncensored open air

of ideas."

Daniel J. Boorstin,

The Indivisible World: Libraries and the Myth of Cultural Exchange

Washington, D.C.: The Library of Congress, 1985.

PURPOSE

The Library/Book Fellows Program began in 1986 with a grant to the American Library Association from the United States Information Agency (USIA). The program's purpose is threefold: (1) to increase international understanding through the establishment of professional and personal relationships and the accomplishment of mutual goals, (2) to promote international sharing of resources and to increase access to U.S. materials in the host country, and (3) to enable U.S. librarians and publishers to enrich and broaden their career experiences through a short period of overseas service.

Fellows are given the opportunity to share their expertise with librarians and publishers from other countries and to learn from their overseas colleagues' experiences. When the Fellows return home, they bring increased awareness and understanding, and they share that understanding with their U.S. colleagues.

Lucinda Covert-Vail
San Francisco, Calif.
MADRID, SPAIN

James Krikelas
Madison, Wisc.
CRETE, GREECE

Michel S. Perdreau
Irontown, Ohio
PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Mary M. Wagner
St. Paul, Minn.
LESOTHO, ROMA

J. David Martin
Iowa City, Iowa
CARACAS, VENEZUELA

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THE PARTICIPANTS

The fourth (1990-91) class of nine Fellows was chosen from hundreds of applicants in a demanding process seeking U.S. library and publishing professionals to initiate and carry out projects in other nations. Their assignments lasted from three to twelve months in such diverse posts as Lesotho, Spain, Venezuela, Greece, Haiti, Pakistan, Botswana, Hong Kong and Barbados. The Fellows' projects, developed in cooperation with host country institutions and USIA were wide-ranging and included teaching cataloging and classification, training library school students and faculty in automated information retrieval, consulting on reference services, and presenting workshops and seminars in archival theory.

Each Fellow's experience was unique and posed exciting and unusual challenges as well as unforeseen obstacles. But all of the Fellows gained new perspectives in the process of sharing materials, ideas, and information with their overseas colleagues.

The following profiles highlight the experiences of the 1990-91 Fellows. For information on the Library/Book Fellows positions available for 1992-93, please see *American Libraries*, February 1992.

Thomas Connors
Los Angeles, Calif.
ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

Wendy A. Simmons
College Park, Md.
GABARONE, BOTSWANA

Artemis G. Kirk
Boston, Mass.
HONG KONG

MARY M. WAGNER

Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Information Management, The College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minn.

Destination: The Institute of Southern African Studies, National University of Lesotho, Roma, Lesotho, Africa

Fellowship period: March through June 1991

"Sala hantle," or "stay well," is one of the many Sesotho phrases Library Fellow Mary Wagner remembered from three years in Lesotho as a high school teacher and librarian in the mid 1980s. In March 1991, Wagner and her husband set out once again for this tiny country in Southern Africa. But this time they were accompanied by their two young daughters—one of whom had been born in Lesotho.

The family's travel itinerary, Minneapolis-Boston-Amsterdam-Johannesburg-Maseru, was a challenge with a three year old and a five year old along. Their final destination was Roma, Lesotho. There, at the Institute of Southern African Studies (ISAS) Documentation and Publication Division, Wagner was to index and create a database for a large collection of ephemeral research materials and train staff to continue the work after her departure. The Library Fellow's professional background was well-suited to the project: she has taught cataloging, classification, indexing and abstracting for six years, and she has planned and implemented numerous continuing education projects for library personnel.

ISAS has a great deal of influence both in Lesotho and in regional academic and political circles. Its collection of archival and historical items—published and unpublished—focuses on the economic, social and political development of Lesotho and the region. Special emphasis is placed on the country's relations with South Africa, which completely surrounds it.

Amid the confusion of settling into temporary housing in a hotel, Wagner wrote, "It is wonderful to be back in Lesotho." Fortunately, the University soon found a house for the family in a community not far from campus. Although they were happy to move out of the hotel, Wagner observed, "It was a great venue for seeing slices of life. Two weeks ago the hotel hosted 300 women from Soweto for a retreat....Marvelous singing came from the conference rooms."

The Library Fellow's indexing project required coming to terms with a documents backlog of several years. For many reasons, including the diversion of staff time to computer training, thousands of government reports, reprints, conference proceedings and other types of "grey literature" had been given accession numbers and put into boxes with no further processing or indexing. Researchers had to sort through the nearly 250 boxes to find materials in their subject areas. The majority of the ephemeral literature had been processed and was accessible through fourteen issues of the *Lesotho Index*.

Standard procedure in the Documentation and Publication Division was to catalog and index all documents using UNESCO software (CD-ISIS) and Pan-African Documentation and Information Systems (PADIS) methodology and thesaurus. Wagner's goal was to index and abstract as many of the boxed documents as possible. After one month on the job, she reported, "I am learning an incredible amount of information and gaining much knowledge about Lesotho in my indexing work."

"The richness of spending these four months in Lesotho will intensify as time goes by and as I reassimilate myself into America, my work and my extended family and friends."

The Documentation and Publication Division issues many research papers and reports, among them an annual report, a monographic series on Human Rights and Destabilization in Southern Africa, a Lesotho clipping series and the *Lesotho Index*. Marketing these works is also the responsibility of the Division. "The publications are of great value not only to academics, but to government ministry personnel and to the wide variety of consultants, volunteers and expatriate employees of government and non-government organizations in Lesotho." However, the publications were not well known outside the University.

Working with the assistant documentalist, who had recently completed a publication promotion workshop in Zimbabwe, Library Fellow Wagner sought methods of better publicizing ISAS products to interested people outside the University. They arranged for publications to be sold through the country's largest bookseller and through a gift

shop catering to expatriates. Advertisements were placed in local newspapers. A poster designed by Wagner and reading copies of several reports were given to embassies, consulates and the offices of volunteer organizations in Maseru, the capital.

A tense political situation in Lesotho led to a non-violent coup d'etat at the end of April. On the streets of Maseru and Roma, however, daily life went on as usual. "This fellowship is going well," Wagner wrote. "I am learning a lot about libraries and information services, to say nothing of how other people see and think about this world we all live in together." Her two daughters seemed to be adjusting nicely to the new culture. "There are not many consumer goods here that are cheaper than in the States, but my daughter's creche and school fees are very reasonable at $15 and $51 per month."

Delegates from east, central and southern Africa attended the third international conference of the Lesotho Science and Technology Association in Maseru near the end of April. The Library Fellow presented a paper, "Automating Libraries and Information Services: Considerations Regarding CPOD Systems and the Intellectual Content of Documents," which sparked conversation about libraries, their use of technology and their importance in developing national policies. "I was excited at the response to the paper, and I found out about library networks, especially in the Republic of South Africa." Universities in some southern African countries are interested in joining the UNINET system, which links academic institutions in the Republic, but they are in many cases deterred by network maintenance fees.

Indexing boxed documents continued to be the Library Fellow's primary activity. Her first few months' work at the Institute came to fruition with the publication of *Lesotho Index 15* in May. Data was being input for indexes 16 and 17, and by the time she left the country in July, *Lesotho Index 18* had also been published. The four new editions contained Wagner's indexing for approximately 1,500 ephemeral documents. She left detailed notes on her indexing and serials control procedures and discussed the work with staff so that both projects would continue. "In general, I tried to extend existing systems rather than create new ones unknown and unfamiliar to the staff. Hopefully, this will prevent abrupt cessation of activity in these areas."

An unexpected promotion came Wagner's way in May. Due to staff leaves and some unfilled positions, she had been acting as senior documentalist for some time. But for the final month and a half of her assignment in Lesotho, she was Acting Head of the Documentation and Publication Division because the Head of the Division was on leave. Supervision of staff, financial management and other activities quickly took precedence over indexing. To help the Division over a difficult staffing period, Wagner agreed to extend her fellowship for two weeks on a voluntary basis.

During her time in Lesotho, Library Fellow Wagner was continually impressed by the helpfulness of the Institute staff and by the friendliness and generosity of the people. "This appears to be a culture where one shares what one has." Describing a visit to the home of friends, she said, "As part of the welcome, I was given a packet of tea, a satin bedspread and a woven grass mat." While noting in her final report that she learned much about Lesotho through indexing and abstracting, Wagner emphasized that real understanding of the country and its culture came from talking with people. "The richness of spending these four months in Lesotho will intensify as time goes by and as I reassimilate myself into America, my work, and my extended family and friends."

ISAS Director G.M. Malahleha spoke highly of Wagner. "I wish to express our great appreciation of Professor Wagner's contribution to the Institute's documentation," she wrote. "She was a pleasure to work with and always willing to take on more work. The Library/Book Fellow program is very useful and of benefit to both the country sending the Fellow and the country receiving the Fellow."

LUCINDA COVERT-VAIL

Computer-Assisted Search Services Coordinator, J. Paul Leonard Library, San Francisco State University

Destination: Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

Fellowship period: September 1990 through June 1991

Spain's Minister of Culture has pledged to build 8,000 new libraries and to upgrade many existing libraries within the next decade to help the Spanish people compete in the integrated European economy of the 1990s. There is a tremendous need in the country for instruction in computer applications for information professionals who will be working in libraries and documentation centers, both in the private sector and in government agencies.

During her ten months' fellowship, Library Fellow Lucinda Covert-Vail was slated to teach automated information retrieval and basic reference work to undergraduates in the Documentation Department of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. But unexpected changes in personnel and course offerings at the University required this Fellow to restructure the original goals of the fellowship soon after she and her husband arrived in Spain's capital city in September 1990.

"The understanding I gained this past year through my work with both Spanish and Latin American information professionals could never be replicated by simply 'reading the literature.' It is a much deeper comprehension of the role of information and information providers internationally..."

In spite of its unpredictable beginning, the San Francisco librarian's academic year in Spain turned out to be "by far, one of the most valuable professional experiences of my life. There is definitely an interest in and a need for information professionals in the field of library automation in Spain. I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time."

A warm Spanish autumn and the Old-World charm of Madrid offered a welcome balance to the Covert-Vails' five-week search for a place to live in the city's tight and expensive housing market. By the time they located an apartment convenient to the University and the city center, the new Library Fellow had acquired office space in the Documentation Department and was putting together a new teaching schedule both there and at the Fundacion German Sanchez Ruiperez (FSGR), which had also been represented in the fellowship proposal. The FSGR is a nonprofit organization that promotes literacy, reading, libraries and librarianship in Spain and in Latin America.

Covert-Vail recently conducted on-site research in the use of databases and online systems in libraries of several Latin American countries. Her professional qualifications also include fifteen years as an online searcher and instructor and extensive experience in reference work. Besides this, her fluent Spanish was essential in Madrid because neither the University nor the Foundation provided translators in her classes.

Twice a year, the FSGR offers a twelve-week postgraduate course in library automation to Spanish and Latin American information professionals who have varying levels of expertise with computers. Covert-Vail agreed to teach online information retrieval in both sessions of this course. She was also asked to instruct students in the use of dBASE IV and the MacLibrary System for Macintosh personal computers.

The Library Fellow felt that hands-on practice in the Foundation's two computer labs was critical for students to understand online equipment and procedures. But there were no Spanish versions of dBASE IV and MacLibrary software available. Therefore, she wrote lengthy manuals for both products that contained Spanish translations of commands, screens and other search elements, as well as exercises, assignments and bibliographies. She compiled and translated another manual on information retrieval, adding European vendors and databases and Spanish computer terminology to the basic course material she had already prepared in the U.S.

"Although the dBASE IV and MacLibrary system course preparation was a bear, the interchange with the Spanish and Latin American students was wonderful. They were extremely responsive and we all came away knowing more than we started with." Covert-Vail's commitment to teaching was recognized by her students: she received the highest evaluations of any instructor.

At the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, the

Library Fellow fashioned a new instructional program for her fellowship period in collaboration with supportive faculty members. The Faculty of Information Sciences at the University has 15,000 students studying print and audiovisual journalism, public relations, marketing and film. Its Documentation Department offers courses in documentation at postgraduate and undergraduate levels. Covert-Vail had expected to teach automated information retrieval in the documentation course required of all fifth-year journalism undergraduates.

Instead, faculty in the postgraduate documentation program suggested that she develop lectures and advise graduate students on both online and CD-ROM information retrieval and on the use and applications of dBASE IV. "There is really no such thing as an MLS degree in the Complutense University program," she explained. "There is no 'course' in online information nor is there any online access. Fitting into a program that didn't exist became something of a challenge."

Because the Department's computer lab lacked online access, the Library Fellow's strategy was to lecture to a class of about 40 students, using manuals she had translated into Spanish. She then gave online demonstrations to groups of three or four at the United States Information Service Library in Madrid, which offered her the use of its Dialog password. Concerned that students have some type of online access after she returned to the U.S., she acquired free passwords to the ECHO online database of the European Community and to the European Space Agency's ESA-IRS online system for the graduate program. Covert-Vail once again received the highest evaluations from her students, which she attributed in part to her hands-on approach to teaching automated information retrieval.

Just before the Feast of the Three Kings—Spain's major gift-giving day during the Christmas season—the Library Fellow wrote that she was enjoying the holiday atmosphere of Madrid and looking forward to a productive and rewarding final six months there. She and her husband, a photojournalist with the Reuters news agency, left the wintry city for a short vacation and found brighter skies in southern Spain. "This is my first brush with cold weather," the California native confessed, "so even a few hours of sun are precious to me."

Through her work at the FSGR, Covert-Vail discovered another nonprofit organization in Madrid concerned with online information. The Fundacion por el Fomento de la Informacion Automatizada (FUINCA) had received a European Community grant to develop an online information retrieval system for Spain. From March until June, the Library Fellow analyzed English-language search software and gateway services for the group as it began to design a comprehensive system.

Gaining a better understanding of the culture of Spain was rewarding for this Library Fellow both personally and professionally. "Surprisingly, I was one of the first North Americans that many of my colleagues, and certainly my students, had ever really seen in action or known personally....For that reason alone, the fellowship period was worth the effort and, at some times, the struggle....I quickly learned to appreciate the depth and texture of the Spanish culture."

Covert-Vail continues to communicate with colleagues and students from the three institutions she was associated with in Madrid. She recently received news that a new university will be starting a master's program in library science and documentation. "I think that for all of us, the opportunity to work and spend time together was an occasion for the exchange of ideas and observations of national characteristics that is difficult to replicate, except in a program of this sort."

J. DAVID MARTIN

Business Librarian, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City

Destination: Simon Bolivar University, Caracas, Venezuela

Fellowship Period: January to June 1991

The postgraduate program in the management of information services at Simon Bolivar University in Caracas is the only one of its kind in Latin America. Established in 1986, it is directed at people who are already working full- or part-time in information centers and libraries, but do not, in most cases, have library training. After they complete the program, students are certified as Specialists in Information Management, a degree that is ranked between a bachelor's and a master's degree in Venezuela.

Library Fellow J. David Martin, a university business librarian with an MBA, was asked to introduce these students to the major university, government and commercial information services in the U.S. and to teach them online searching techniques. Graduates would then have a foundation for developing and administering similar services in Latin America. "It was an interesting time to be in Venezuela because they are in the process of trying to privatize much of their industry previously controlled by the government," Martin observed.

The transition from Iowa's wintry weather to Venezuela's tropical climate was a pleasant beginning for Martin's six-month fellowship at the University. Shortly after his arrival in Caracas, the country's capital and industrial center, the Library Fellow began teaching a weekly two-to-three hour class on business information resources that lasted from January until March. Classes in the information management program meet only on Mondays or Tuesdays because nearly all students have jobs. "There is not a custom of graduate students going to school full time here."

Most of Martin's students were women from Caracas and other cities in Venezuela who worked in libraries or other types of information centers. However, several librarians from the University library staff audited this class and another class taught by Martin later in the academic year. "The concept of a business collection was new to some students and we had very interesting discussions about the differences between public and private companies in the U.S. and Venezuela and how the sheer number of companies in the U.S. creates a demand for information. We also had some good discussions about charging for information."

Spanish language materials about business sources were scarce. The Library Fellow translated articles and other materials he had brought from the U.S. for students' use. Since many of the business sources he was describing in the class were not available at the University, he sent students to libraries and other organizations around the city to find company and industry information for class reports and presentations. Locating such data was often difficult. "For example, the concept of a collection of annual reports of companies is unknown here."

Library Fellow Martin was in Venezuela during the entire period of the Gulf War in early 1991. Viewing the conflict from the perspective of a different culture was enlightening. Most people in the U.S. were not aware that Venezuela was concerned that terrorists might strike at its oil installations, or that there might be a disruption in the import of consumer goods to the country. "Since I did not have access to English language TV, I watched the war being translated from CNN broadcasts into Spanish. It was a very strange sensation."

From April until June, Martin taught a weekly class on "Configuration and Commercialization of Information Services." The students in this group were remarkably enthusiastic: "From day one, they asked questions about the subject matter, about me, about my family, about my job, about everything under the sun....They had all kinds of ideas for setting up small information service businesses." He commented in his final report that the two classes were great fun to teach. "I feel that both courses were successful in the sense that I was presenting new ideas to the groups. I learned a great deal from both of them."

Seeing more of the country was on the Library Fellow's agenda during the last few weeks in May, when his wife and two children visited Caracas. The family undertook the adventure of a lifetime when they traveled by boat

and Indian canoe through canyons and jungles into the interior of Venezuela, near the border with Brazil. "This is one of the most fascinating places I have ever seen," he wrote. Mountains, called tepuys, rise up out of the jungle in the region; and all of them have waterfalls that are "truly spectacular." The Martins viewed Angel Falls, the longest waterfall in the world, and swam at the base of other magnificent falls in the interior.

His final three months in Caracas were Martin's busiest. He continued to teach, but also made valuable contributions to several important projects related to business information in Latin America. Early in his fellowship, Martin and Postgraduate Program Coordinator Delores Raventos de Castro had spent several days at the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administracion (IESA), a private graduate school of business not connected with Simon Bolivar University. After visiting several libraries in the U.S. to compare online systems, the staff at the IESA library were beginning the process of selecting a system and preparing an automation timetable. From March until the end of his fellowship, Martin served as an advisor to the IESA Library and Computer Center in the preparation of an automation plan. The Center presented a comprehensive report to the IESA administration just a week before the Library Fellow's departure in June.

"I learned a great deal about Venezuela and its people and I think my students learned something from me. It was a wonderful experience for me both professionally and personally."

Martin was invited by the American Consulate in Rio de Janeiro to give lecture/demonstrations on database searching and library automation to library science students, faculty and other interested people. He was concerned about going to a country where he knew very little of the language. But he learned from the Portuguese-speaking Brazilians in his audiences that they understood his Spanish better than his English, because he did not speak rapidly like a native speaker. Martin demonstrated the Dialog online retrieval system to the groups—a feat that involved routing signals from the Consulate to the Brazilian telephone company, from there to a satellite, and from there to the U.S. "It was the first time many of these people had seen an online computer search, and all the connections worked."

Both of Martin's information management classes had benefitted from hands-on practice in online searching at the local Dialog training office. Shortly before he returned to Iowa at the end of June, he took part in a three-day workshop entitled "Sources for Market Intelligence," sponsored by the Dialog office. Most of the people who attended the workshop were connected with the oil industry in Venezuela. "Searching business databases was a new experience for all of them."

Martin looks upon his fellowship at Simon Bolivar University with a strong sense of accomplishment. "I was able to contribute to the development of library and information education in Venezuela and also to library automation in one organization, and to help one small business market its information services. I feel as though I made several good friends with whom I hope to remain in contact in the future."

Acknowledging that there are both positive and negative aspects to working in a different culture, the Library Fellow emphatically stated that the positive experiences in his fellowship period far outweighed the negatives. "I learned a great deal about Venezuela and its people and I think my students learned something from me....It was a wonderful experience for me both professionally and personally."

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JAMES KRIKELAS

Professor, University of Wisconsin—Madison, School of Library and Information Studies

Destination: University of Crete, Rethymnon, Crete, Greece

Fellowship period: January through June 1991

A year as a Fulbright lecturer at the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki in 1980-81 had prepared Library Fellow James Krikelas well for a six-month fellowship on the beautiful Mediterranean island of Crete. His facility with the language, familiarity with the present-day politics and culture of higher education in Greece, and extensive experience in planning and teaching library automation were invaluable in carrying out the projects proposed by his hosts at the University of Crete.

Established by national legislation in 1978, the University of Crete began instruction in 1977/78. It is one of the newer universities in Greece and also one of the most innovative and progressive. It provides centralized library services on two campuses, at Heraklion and Rethymnon, with a collection open equally to faculty and students. This represents a significant departure from traditional arrangements in Greek universities. Usually, university faculty members control small, subject-oriented library collections and allow varying degrees of access to them.

With the help of University computing staff, the library at Rethymnon, where Krikelas was based, had advanced quickly during the past few years toward the implementation of an integrated automated library system. "I was pleasantly surprised to find that a great deal of technological progress had been made in Greece in the past decade." By summer 1990 the technology was in place to utilize the computerized cataloging and circulation systems already developed on the Heraklion campus.

Head Librarian Mihalis Tzekakis initially had wanted the Library Fellow to upgrade and implement a network system in the Rethymnon library. Communication links were needed for networking among the two University libraries, Cretan Public Libraries, and the University of Thessaloniki library on the mainland. Krikelas would also lecture and give seminars on library automation and networking.

The newly appointed Library Fellow made a preliminary visit to Crete in September of 1990 to assess the tasks to be done and to meet library and computer staffs. As a result of this visit a tentative outline was developed for the computer staff to convert the "search key" based online catalog into a full term (keyboard) system. By the time he returned in January, the team in Rethymnon had already completed other parts of the project: communications links were in place between Heraklion and Rethymnon; and the University of Thessaloniki was also testing the first version of the catalog input module for the online catalog. Priorities and tasks for the fellowship were thus altered somewhat to suit the changing automation environment.

First stopping in Athens to advise the Librarian of the Greek Parliament on automation possibilities, Krikelas

"We left Crete with a strong appreciation for the rich cultural heritage of this island and were grateful for the opportunity to live and work there."

came back to Rethymnon early in the year, accompanied by his wife, Joan, who is Coordinator of the Foreign Visitors Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Rethymnon is a small city on the northern coast of Crete with a population of less than 20,000. A resort spot, it is popular with European vacationers during the tourist season from mid-March through October. The Krikelases quickly established a comfortable daily routine that included a late afternoon stroll along the Mediterranean to the center of town. There they would buy groceries, browse through the shops and frequently visit the public library, which had a small selection of foreign language titles.

A typical work day lasted from 8 a.m. until 4 or 5 p.m., when the Library Fellow would leave for a light lunch—"There is no lunch break in the Greek work day." Evenings were spent quietly in their small apartment near the University—reading, listening to the BBC and warding off the winter chill with the benefit of a kerosene-burning *somba*. Although social activities were limited, plays and concerts were occasionally performed at the University, and members of the Library staff entertained the Krikelases many times throughout their six-month stay.

The modified goals for the Library Fellow at the University of Crete focused on upgrading the automation system at the Rethymnon campus library. Working with library and computer staffs, he designed online acquisitions and serial check-in systems; a serial fund-accounting module; and an upgrade of the online circulation system. The months passed quickly as different versions and updates of the system modules underwent testing and reconfiguration.

Other opportunities to contribute to the development of library services in Crete and throughout Greece arose during the fellowship. Krikelas helped write the final report for a European Community (EC) funded project on the sharing of bibliographic records between England and Greece. The report required a detailed comparison of USMARC and UKMARC records. Subsequently, he prepared three major proposals to the EC for the funding of library initiatives in Greece involving new technology, a union catalog and the sharing of university library resources.

An absorbing project unexpectedly took shape after the Library Fellow learned that catalogers of Greek literature and history at the University were unhappy with Library of Congress classification for those areas. "LC groups 1,500 years of Greek literature (Byzantine to Modern) into a single subdivision, and faculty as well as students find this incomprehensible and annoying." Based upon his own reading about major trends and literary movements in Modern Greek and Cretan literature, Krikelas prepared a preliminary revision of the classification that featured a new subdivision for Modern Greek literature. "I expect to continue working on this topic after my return to the United States."

The Krikelases found that sightseeing in Crete using a rented automobile was costly. "We were lucky that on a number of weekends we were taken by the librarian or one of the staff members to visit a village or relatives in a nearby city." On Easter Sunday, the most important holiday in Greece, they joined Library Director Tzekakis and his family at his country home outside Rethymnon. Two days later, they witnessed the traditional Eastertide blessing of sheep in a small village near the city. A priest first blessed the sheep, and then they were milked. Later, the milk was heated and shared with everyone present.

Librarians from other Greek educational institutions often sought out the Library Fellow's automation. With the directors of the two major public libraries in Crete, he explored the idea of integrating public and university library catalog records into a union catalog. Discussions with staff at the Universities of Thessaly and Thessaloniki focused on the issues surrounding a national program of library automation for Greece.

Toward the end of his fellowship, the National Library of Greece sponsored a lecture by the Library Fellow in Athens on the prospects for automation of Greek libraries. The audience, which numbered around 150, was "attentive and interested in the topic." Krikelas also spoke with the staff of the new Konstantine Karamanlis Foundation Library—the equivalent of a Presidential library in the U.S.—about library automation options.

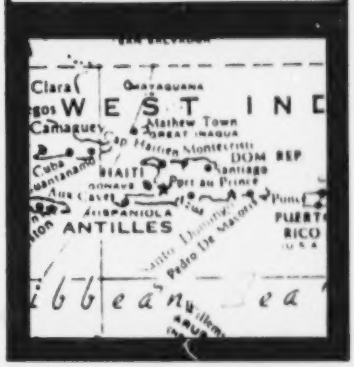
Reflecting upon a challenging and fruitful period in Crete, Krikelas commented, "The librarian [of the University of Crete Library at Rethymnon] and his staff, as well as the computer project director and his staff, were friendly, courteous, eager to learn and very conscientious about their jobs....My overall assessment of the assignment was that it did provide valuable assistance to the librarian, to the library and to the university. All in all, it was a very satisfying experience." As for the University's opinion of the Library Fellow, the Director of Libraries said, "From now on we will be talking about the pre-Krikelas and the post-Krikelas period in the development of our libraries." The fellowship was seen as a milestone in the life of university libraries in Greece.

MICHEL S. PERDREAU

Former Director, Library & Media Services, Ohio University Southern Campus, Ironton

Destination: National Library of Haiti, Port-au-Prince

Fellowship period: January through June 1991



The Republic of Haiti was experiencing serious political and social turmoil when Library Fellow Michel Perdreau arrived in Port-au-Prince in January 1991. Following the country's first fully democratic elections the month before, various political factions were struggling for dominance. The unrest touched all levels of society and all of the country's institutions, including the National Library of Haiti (NLH). There, some staff members were involved in work stoppages throughout Perdreau's tenure, and many times no electricity or water were available.

An unexpected change in library administration occurred on the 1st of April, midway through Perdreau s fellowship. Nonetheless, the Fellow reported that both of the National Library Directors he dealt with were fully supportive of his work. The staff of the library also welcomed him graciously and were very helpful. As a result, he was able to accomplish a great deal in his six months at the NLH, albeit "with some variation and not exactly as planned."

The central building of the National Library of Haiti is in Port-au-Prince, but the NLH also has 16 branches in the provinces, housed in buildings that range from "Carnegie-type structures" to simple rooms. Getting to the outlying libraries was often difficult as there are few roads in the interior of the country. Perdreau's main objective at the NLH was to organize training sessions for various levels of library personnel in such areas as personal computer operation, introduction to technical services, management of periodical collections and library computer applications.

Perdreau taught a course on the use of library resources at the Ohio University Southern Campus in Ironton, where he was Library Director. His background also includes work with archives and he is knowledgeable about computer applications for libraries and archives management. Fluent in French, the Library Fellow has been a translator at many conferences of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA); prior to his departure for Haiti, he also learned Haitian creole. "I spent some time before my departure learning about the life and culture of Haiti, with an emphasis on recent developments," Perdreau remarked. But he found that in-depth information—especially about the country's library system—was not easy to find.

Soon after his arrival in the January heat of this part of the Caribbean, Perdreau assessed the training needs of the National Library staff. Many staff members needed basic training in word processing and financial spreadsheets, while others required more specialized instruction. The Library Fellow began by installing the French version of WordPerfect and the Lotus 1-2-3 package. Electricity was available for only three hours each day at first, but this problem was solved when a hook-up to the generator of a neighboring business was arranged. Perdreau quickly initiated a full schedule of tutoring sessions. In a few weeks, he reported, "A core of trained personnel at ease with word-processing tasks was ready to prepare press releases, correspondence and newsletters, and another group was now able to visualize the financial picture of the institution."

Using a CD-ROM product called CD-CATSS, a subset of the Utlas database, the Library Fellow trained the cataloging staff to download MARC records for copy cataloging. National Library cataloging record codes were later added to the TELEMAT online bibliographic database, a centralized Haitian system which offers the country's libraries remote access. The staff training agenda also included instruction in interlibrary loan protocols and the use of the International Standard Book Number (ISBN). When the internal political situation interfered, Perdreau modified group training plans and focused instead on one-to-one sessions with available staff members.

The Library Fellow also lent his expertise to the NLH in areas beyond basic training in library procedures. With its small acquisitions budget, the NLH relies heavily on its role as a legal deposit library and on gifts and exchange materials. The cultural missions of various nations located in Port-au-Prince frequently contribute books and other items published in their respective countries to the National

Library. Drawing upon his IFLA experience with developing countries, Perdreau worked with local publishers and authors to raise the NLH profile in Haitian literary circles. He also began reorganizing the gifts and exchange program by identifying the most suitable materials for the National Library to exchange and reordering exchange priorities to meet the library's most pressing needs.

After the change in NLH administration in early April, Library Fellow Perdreau's role at the library was also altered. He focused his activities on assisting the newly named Director of the National Library, Mme. Colette P. Audant. "I soon became a roving librarian dispatched to address any and all kinds of issues facing libraries in this developing country." Some of his most interesting experiences involved visiting other libraries and documentation centers on the island. He consulted with their directors about plans for automation and development of databases, and tried to determine their future software communications needs.

"My fellowship was a worthwhile undertaking and my difficulties were minor compared to the ones faced daily by my Haitian colleagues. I relish the time I spent at the NLH, the people I met, the friendships which evolved."

Religious orders established some of the first libraries in Haiti in the 19th century to support their educational missions in the country. Several of these libraries have great historical significance for Haiti and the entire West Indies, but they are in many cases not accessible to the public or to scholars. A notable example is the library of the Petit Seminaire du Saint-Martial. Based upon a private collection donated to the Fathers of the Holy Spirit in 1864, it documents Haitian history, slavery in the West Indies, the sugarcane industry and colonial governments, among many other subjects. Seeing these materials, which are the best collection of early West Indian culture outside Jamaica, according to Perdreau, "was by far the most exciting and troubling part of my experience with library work." Their location is a well-kept secret due to the unpredictability of the current political situation, and only an advisor to President Aristide could gain admission to the collection for the Library Fellow.

Because there has been notable progress in bringing various types of technology to Haiti, the Library Fellow had opportunities to make connections between libraries and organizations which have the technology to assist them. Through the French cultural mission in Port-au-Prince, Perdreau gained access to a variety of CD-ROM products in French, which Haitian library staff found more helpful than English language materials. A local software and desktop publishing firm helped the Library Fellow lay the groundwork for an online union catalog of the holdings of the major libraries in the capital. "The result is visible today in the form of an electronically accessible set of databases."

Training of NLH staff and general consulting for other libraries continued until the Library Fellow's departure in July for Ohio, with a stopover at the ALA Annual Conference in Atlanta. "My fellowship experience in Haiti marked me profoundly," Perdreau said in retrospect. "I can now empathize with my colleagues from developing countries, having shared their frustrations." Although his fellowship included some moments of great apprehension when political demonstrations and strikes erupted nearby, Perdreau avoided being caught up in the politics of the moment.

Instead, he made the most of an often difficult and confusing situation, searching out the places where his expertise could be put to the best use and offering advice and support where it was needed. Many libraries in the Republic of Haiti besides the NLH felt the effect of his determination to be of service. Mme. Audant, the current Director of the National Library, said of Perdreau: "His mere presence and his professional knowledge and balance helped smooth the delicate transition from one administration to the other."

THOMAS CONNORS

Consulting Archivist, The Bancroft Group, Los Angeles

Destination: National Archives of Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan

Fellowship period: November 1990 through April 1991 (time in country cut short by Gulf War)

Library Fellow Thomas Connors' projected six-month fellowship at the National Archives of Pakistan ended unexpectedly with a midnight flight out of Islamabad on January 14, 1991, just two months after his arrival in the capital city. Connors was one of many Americans who were evacuated from Pakistan and other countries in the region by the U.S. government at the beginning of the Persian Gulf War.

His original fellowship goals at the National Archives called for Connors to present workshops and seminars in archival theory and practice, as well as to develop and conduct a three-month course in archival administration for the National Archives. He was also planning to consult with archivists and librarians around the country about archival training needs.

Although he spent only a short time in Pakistan, Connors initiated several projects that will have lasting effects within the country's archival community. Before his untimely departure, the Library Fellow helped to plan and teach a three-week records management workshop for government record-keepers and consulted with numerous archivists and librarians in Peshawar and the capital. "Preservation/conservation, however, proved to be *the* issue to address among those involved in historical resources management in Pakistan," he observed.

Mr. Atique Zafar Sheikh, Director General of the National of Archives, had requested a Library Fellow with training and experience in archives management to offer in-service workshops to his staff. With a research collection of some 50,000 books and manuscripts, including the papers of Muhammad Ali Jinnah—Pakistan's founder—and other items, the Department serves hundreds of scholars throughout Pakistan. It also sponsors national, regional and international seminars on archival subjects. Many of the professional staff at the National Archives have advanced library degrees, but they do not have specialized training for archives management.

Archivist/historian Connors' background met the fellowship requirements well. His varied work experience has included positions as a university manuscripts specialist and as an archivist for the George Meany Memorial Archives, AFL-CIO. Now a consultant for The Bancroft Group in Los Angeles, Connors is completing a historical records and oral history project for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Just a few weeks after the Library Fellow arrived in Pakistan in early November, planning was already well underway for both a records management workshop and a three-month course in archival administration. Archivists from Pakistan, Iran and Bangladesh were to attend the three-month course, which would begin in February.

The records management workshop was held from December 2-22 in Islamabad, using a format of lectures, group discussions and hands-on exercises in categorizing documents and indexing files. Visits to the Peshawar Museum and a provincial government records room provided first-hand observation of records organization. The 32 participants, who included government record-keepers from around the country and National Archives staff members, judged the workshop a success, particularly in the areas of records appraisal, categorization and indexing. "One of the workshop's goals was to create a practical body of experience to guide future training. This was indeed achieved," Connors said in assessing the results.

Connors was gradually becoming accustomed to life in the capital "Islamabad is unlike any city I know," he wrote. "It is as though it is caught between the present and the past—in one sense it is a modern urban center and national capital, and in another sense it is a big sprawling village where cows and chickens and donkeys roam at will." He joined the local Asia Study Group, which met to explore the culture of the area and organized expeditions to the Khyber Pass and other noted regional landmarks. "My work as an archivist in Pakistan provided a window into its history that helped allay feelings of discomfort or strangeness and made my experience in the country more educational than consultative."

Unfortunately, the Library Fellow had no time to further investigate the region. He was just beginning to visit archives in other Pakistani cities when the Persian War necesitated his evacuation. In Peshawar—home to more than one million Afghan refugees—he spoke to the directors of the Afghan Media Resource Center (AMRC). During the past four years, the AMRC trained many young male refugees in filmmaking and photojournalism so that they could document the conflict in Afghanistan. The work of gathering images has declined since the withdrawal of Soviet troops last year, but the AMRC has more than 100,000 photographs, nearly one thousand hours of videotape and 500 hours of audiotape—all of which must be organized and stored.

One week after his talks with the AMRC, Connors was on his way back home. In order to bring his fellowship to a productive conclusion, he proposed several projects related to the needs of Pakistan's archival community that could be completed in the U.S. Because many archivists and librarians in Pakistan were especially interested in conservation and preservation, the Library Fellow offered to write a prospectus for a preservation demonstration kit. Such a kit could be used throughout Pakistan and other developing countries to introduce basic, remedial preservation techniques in archives and libraries. After four months of work, Connors presented "Prospectus: An Archival Preservation Demonstration Kit" to ALA and USIA.

The 70-page document sets out the requirements for assessing preservation needs in archives, offers assessment checklists and describes in detail the contents and functions of a basic preservation demonstration kit. Also included are step-by-step descriptions of such techniques as deacidification, encapsulation and document repair. "Several American preservation experts have expressed interest in the kit idea as have a number of archivists from developing countries who have examined the prospectus."

Based upon his experience with the records management workshop offered at the National Archives, Connors felt there was a need for a manual/workbook that could be used to conduct similar workshops throughout Pakistan. He developed "Records Management: A Treatment for a Workshop and Support Manual," which suggests instructional elements, content points of lectures and texts, and hands-on exercises for a model records management workshop. "The essential feature of this workshop is its flexibility: it can be altered to address all levels of records management practice with the aim of upgrading programs to fit new organizational realities." The Library Fellow later reported that the National Archives used the plan for its second annual records management workshop in November 1991.

Connors had the opportunity to return to Pakistan in August and September of 1991—this time through the USIA's Academic Specialist Program—to further advise the Afghan Media Resource Center on organizing and preserving the thousands of images it has of the conflict in Afghanistan. At that time, he spoke again with Director General Sheikh and former co-workers at the National Archives in Islamabad. "It was personally gratifying to return to the work curtailed due to the Gulf War and to learn that my Pakistani colleagues would like to see our aborted program revitalized."

"Contact and communication established through our fellowships should be somehow maintained....Otherwise our efforts are drops in the bucket in situations that cry for sustained commitment."

His experiences in both the Library/Book Fellow and Academic Specialist programs engendered strong opinions in Connors about the long-term potential of such undertakings. "It is clear that programs should be more than gestures, that the contact and communication established through our fellowships should somehow be maintained. Otherwise our efforts are drops in the bucket in situations that cry for sustained commitment....I hope that I am up to the commitment necessary to follow through on the friendships and the promises I made to colleagues who, despite cultural, educational, religious, linguistic and other differences, share with me an identical professional vision."

WENDY A. SIMMONS

Adjunct Lecturer, University of Maryland-College Park, Md.

Destination: University of Botswana, Gabarone, Botswana, Africa

Fellowship period: September 1990 through August 1991

A hot, dry and windy equatorial winter greeted Library Fellow Wendy Simmons when she arrived in Gabarone, Botswana on the last day of August 1990 for a year-long fellowship. Her colleagues at the University of Botswana Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS) promised that relief from the heat was not far away. By October, Simmons was hard at work teaching five classes a week in the DLIS program. Temperatures had indeed cooled and spring rains had begun. She marveled at the dramatic changes in the weather: "There are amazing storms even Americans from the Midwest have to respect and the lightning is like nothing you've ever seen."

Simmons' students, who were from twelve different African countries, represented a wide range of work experience, educational levels and ages. All were studying for one of five credentials offered by the DLIS, which is recognized as one of the most dynamic library education providers on the African continent. Instruction at the DLIS strongly emphasizes the information environment in Africa and strives to accommodate to local settings.

Headed by Peter Havard-Williams, who was until 1987 the director of the Department of Library and Information Studies at Loughborough University in England, the DLIS has an entirely British-trained faculty. However, the school has plans to teach comparative U.S. and U.K. library practice, especially with regard to cataloging, indexing and classification. Faculty members felt that an American Library Fellow would make them more aware of information management methods and library automation efforts in the U.S. Because the DLIS works closely with the University of Botswana Library, it was proposed that the Fellow also serve as a consultant there.

Library Fellow Simmons had worked in Africa before. Several years ago, she established a library collection and an automated cataloging and order system for a regional church media center in Zimbabwe. Rural Zimbabwe was also the site of a major portion of the data collection for Simmons' doctoral dissertation; she received her doctorate in library science from the University of Maryland in 1990. Her teaching and work experience in the U.S. has focused upon cataloging, classification and indexing, and she is an expert in computer applications in those areas.

Four of Simmons' five courses in the first academic term required a new syllabus, and class preparation kept her very busy. "My welcome in Botswana has been warm and friendly and helpful. I also think they are finding it interesting to have an American-trained teacher with them." The Library Fellow's teaching responsibilities included organization of library materials, cataloging and classification and information technology. With Dr. L. Aina, a DLIS faculty member from Nigeria, she team-taught a postgraduate class on the organization of knowledge.

During the second academic term, Simmons taught three courses, all of which focused on subject headings, classification, indexing, abstracting and thesaurus construction. In the cataloging and classification course for the paraprofessional diploma, students produced a mini-thesaurus in an area of their interest and classified a set of items they had previously cataloged. "Some of the projects were excellent pieces of work." She was especially touched that the two-year diploma students chose to have their class picture taken during her class time, so that she could be in it.

In December, Gabarone broke records for high temperatures that had been set since 1952. A typical day included an hour or so of rain, after which the thermometer soared past 100 degrees. The Library Fellow escaped from the intense heat by celebrating Christmas with friends in cool and rainy Zimbabwe. Her household gained another member around Christmastime in the form of a four-year-old "black and sleek and tiny cat," whom she named "Mau-Mau."

Simmons had begun spending part of her worktime at the University of Botswana Library in October. After the library decided on an integrated automated system late in the year, the Library Fellow helped evaluate system modules and train staff in cataloging, circulation and other

areas using demonstration programs provided by the British system vendor. She also served on a committee created by University Librarian Mrs. K. Raseroka to analyze the work flow in technical services with a view toward reorganizing for automation.

Occasions for consulting and lecturing were numerous during Simmons' year at the University. A presentation on access to government information in the U.S. at a DLIS departmental forum soon after her arrival was well-received. The librarian at the South African Council of Churches invited the Library Fellow to Johannesburg in February to lead a workshop on indexing and subject analysis for the Transvaal Resources Centres Forum. She also participated in a number of seminars and workshops held at the DLIS during the academic year, including a panel discussion on information for rural development, a topic close to the subject of her dissertation.

"The fellowship for me was very satisfying. I was very welcomed by my department in Botswana and hope to continue contributing to their work, from a distance, in the future."

Also on behalf of the library school, Simmons several times traveled to nearby villages to assess students from the DLIS School Library Certificate Program. Serowe Village, the home area of the first president of Botswana, was the destination for one of these visits in April. The Library Fellow and colleagues spoke with several teacher-librarians from the DLIS program. "Our students there were enthusiastic and are doing good work, and I found a worthy setting for lots of ALA posters." In Serowe, there are many reminders of traditional African village arrangements. Paved streets and sidewalks lined with a few trees and flowers follow old paths between the traditional compounds of round dwellings decorated with geometric paintings and areas of more modern, square houses.

Teaching and preparing her students for the all-important end of year exams and review by the British external examiner occupied the Library Fellow until May. In the final three months of her fellowship, from June to August, Simmons helped the DLIS to lay the groundwork for a future M.A. program that will replace the postgraduate diploma. She analyzed ALA accreditation and self-study guidelines as well as course outlines from library schools in Africa, the U.K. and the U.S. "The review will also be used to evaluate other programs of study in the Department."

Before she left for the U.S., Simmons visited the Okavango Swamps, the home of many wild animals and Botswana's main tourist attraction. Flying in small planes to island camps and then traveling with local guides in dug-out canoes, Simmons came "eyeball to eyeball, plus 100 feet or so" with zebra, elephant, impala and many other species. "It's the only place in Africa where you walk to see the animals on islands."

Her fellowship year in Botswana had been very satisfying, Simmons said in her final report. "I already miss my colleagues on the faculty, the gracious family of students and the relaxed atmosphere of the University. I benefitted a great deal from being allowed to spend a year in that setting." Her contribution had been to provide a grounding in American practices for library work, the Fellow said. "But they will have to make the transition to their own setting, something I could not easily teach them to do."

Merely listing what the Library Fellow had done during the year gave no impression of her true impact on the Department, Peter Havard-Williams wrote. "Dr. Simmons contributed broadly to the life of the Department right throughout the year....She has also been extremely helpful in making us more aware of trends and developments in American librarianship and information. Her influence in the Department will be a lasting one."

ARTEMIS G. KIRK

Director of Libraries, Simmons College, Boston

Destination: Urban Council Public Libraries, Hong Kong

Fellowship period: June through August 1991

"I have never in my life done anything as dramatic, exciting and exotic as plan a three-month working trip to a country like Hong Kong," Library Fellow Artemis Kirk wrote with enthusiasm as she and her family prepared for the long trip across the Pacific to the Southeast Asia. Kirk's summer in this colorful and complex Asian city-state and her work with its progressive Urban Council Public Libraries system were highly rewarding. Indeed, her fellowship in Hong Kong exceeded all expectations.

Urban Council (UC) Chief Librarian Michael Mak and his staff have undertaken an ambitious program to expand the number of public libraries in this densely populated metropolis, where the average annual library circulation is now over eight million. By 1997, when Britain has agreed to relinquish responsibility for governing the Territory of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China, the UC plans to have 43 libraries in operation—fourteen more than at present. A large arts reference library opened in 1990 in the striking new Hong Kong Cultural Centre at the edge of the city's famous harbor. And the reference facility in the City Hall Public Library, which is the heart of the UC system, will soon move into larger quarters and be designated as the Central Reference Library for the area. The Council's long-range plans for Hong Kong libraries also call for an integrated online catalog.

Reference services were Kirk's main reason for going to Hong Kong. Chief Librarian Mak wanted the Library Fellow to review existing services in the UC system and develop a plan for their enhancement. Another goal for the Fellow was to train library staff in reference techniques, collection development and searching of CD-ROM databases. For the past three years, the UC has subscribed to numerous CD-ROM databases, including Dialog Ondisc, Bibliofile, ERIC, NTIS and Standard and Poor's.

Library Fellow Kirk is knowledgeable about reference sources and staff training for reference, having served as an instructor in reference and information services at Simmons College's Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences. She is also well-versed in library applications of computer technology. Director of Libraries at Simmons for the past 12 years, Kirk recently oversaw the installation of an integrated automated library system there.

Accompanied by her husband, daughter and son, the Library Fellow arrived in Hong Kong in early June. Finding short-term family accommodations in one of the most expensive housing markets in eastern Asia was difficult. But with the help of UC library staff, the Kirks located an apartment in Discovery Bay on neighboring Lantau island after only a week. "Everyone here has been cordial, helpful and very welcoming," she wrote. Since the family was living on the island rather than in the city itself, Kirk had the good fortune of commuting to work each day via a 20-minute ferry ride past one of the most spectacular skylines in the world.

It was quickly agreed that the Library Fellow would teach a class on Reference Sources and Services, including instruction in CD-ROM techniques, for UC librarians and assistant librarians. The remainder of her time would be spent assisting the Chief Librarian in planning for the Central Reference Library and in developing a long-term plan for expanded reference services in the UC system.

The Library Fellow's course for UC staff on reference sources and services was held every Friday during her fellowship, using a format of lecture, discussion and class assignments. Librarians from the American Library and other Hong Kong governmental and public sector libraries occasionally attended as well. Students were always well-prepared and their class presentations were articulate, to the point and useful for discussion, she reported. "It was a pleasure to work among such professionals."

For a class on online public access catalogs, Kirk arranged for students to use the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology OPAC through a modem hook-up. The live demonstration was very helpful. "The sample searches we performed brought together all the discussions we've been having." During the session on networks, Berry

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G. Richards, Director of Libraries at Lehigh University and Library Fellow Kirk's sister, spoke to the group about the pioneering campus-wide library and information network at Lehigh.

The friendliness of the people and the fascinating cultural life of Hong Kong were a source of constant delight for Kirk and her family. Using the excellent and inexpensive subways, ferries and double-decker buses, they covered the Territory from one end to the other, shopping in Chinese street markets, hiking up mountain trails near their island home and enjoying performances of the two Hong Kong Chinese Orchestras as well as the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the Moscow State Symphony. As if to make their experience of this unique city complete, a typhoon blew out of the South China Sea, uprooting trees, breaking glass and disrupting ferry schedules before veering to the south and missing Hong Kong. "We were all lucky (if not a tiny bit disappointed)," the Library Fellow wrote.

Throughout her three months in Asia, Kirk consulted regularly with the Chief Librarian about the top priority of her fellowship, a report on long-term improvement of reference services. As background for the report, Kirk visited many UC libraries to look at reference services. She carefully studied internal documents and the Urban Council regulations regarding libraries, especially those relating to copyright. A subcommittee of the Law Reform Commission in Hong Kong has urged revision of the Territory's restrictive copyright laws. Because of them, libraries prohibit patrons from photocopying more than a single periodical article at one time. No copies may be taken from monographs. "It is fair to say that American reference service is generally freer of constraints... primarily because of the absence of regulations mandated by the parent body."

Before departing Hong Kong at the end of August, the Library Fellow submitted a 33-page report, "Long Term Planning for Improved Services," with several appendices on such topics as online systems, telecommunications, networks, metropolitan library statistics and preservation. In it, she recommended that the UC libraries consider the need for an improved public access catalog as the highest of automation priorities. Her report concluded, "The Urban Council Public Libraries provide an excellent service to the people of Hong Kong, primarily because the staff is so dedicated."

In the busy final weeks of her fellowship, Kirk and her family traveled to Taiwan, where she gave a lengthy lecture on preservation to a conference of librarians. Back "home," she also spoke to the Hong Kong Library Association about preservation. The Library Fellow presented everyone on the City Hall library staff with Simmons College patterned shoelaces as a parting gift. On her last day at work, she was delighted to see that all the staff wore sneakers tied with the Simmons laces.

"From the moment I set foot in Hong Kong until the moment I left, I loved the work, the city and the people. I have become a different and a better person for the experience..."

Looking back on an exciting and productive fellowship experience, Kirk wrote, "From the moment I set foot in Hong Kong until the moment I left, I loved the work, the city and the people. I have become a different and a better person for the experience of living and working among such a wonderful group of individuals. I hope only that I made as much of a contribution to the people of Hong Kong via the Urban Council Public Libraries as they made to me."

Chief Librarian Mak commented on the positive impact Kirk's fellowship had on the UC libraries. "Staff have benefitted from the training sessions conducted by Ms. Kirk and the formal and informal discussions with her. This has broadened the perspective and outlook of library staff and will have a lasting effect on library services. Ms. Kirk's detailed review of various aspects of library services...raised new ideas and concrete recommendations...and will accelerate changes..."

ANNE MUSTAIN

Catalog Librarian, Arthur J. Morris Law Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Destination: University of the West Indies, Faculty of Law Library, Bridgetown, Barbados

Fellowship period: October 1990 through August 1991

The University of the West Indies (UWI) Faculty of Law Library, established in 1970, is the only major law library in the Commonwealth Caribbean area. Its primary function is to support the teaching and research program of the University's law school, but it also provides legal information services for many Caribbean governments. Over the years, it has become an important resource center on Caribbean law for North American law schools, legal scholars and businesses as well.

Works published in the United States comprise approximately 20 percent of the library's collection, but acquisition of Spanish language law materials is rapidly increasing. The balance of the holdings consists of British and West Indian imprints. In order to improve law research and reference services to faculty, students and scholars, the UWI law library is preparing for implementation of an online catalog.

Library Fellow Anne Mustain was in charge of the effort to convert manually produced catalog records to machine-readable form for use in an online catalog. Mustain has broad experience in automating law libraries. She supervised the transition from manual systems to an online catalog environment at the University of Virginia law library. She also oversaw that library's move from an online system that was strictly bibliographic to a completely new integrated system featuring acquisition and circulation modules.

Soon after arriving in Barbados, Mustain unexpectedly found herself in charge of the Cataloging Department when the cataloger relocated to another area. Her responsibilities widened to include consideration of cataloging and classification issues, such as the use of the Moys classification scheme in the UWI law library. The differences between headings in the library's card catalog and AACR2 forms of heading were also a concern.

Nonetheless, the records conversion at UWI was quite successful, according to Law Librarian and Senior Lecturer Dr. John Dryud, who spoke with a local USIS officer midway through the project. In spite of some mail delays, which held up needed software, compact disks and manuals from OCLC, and a telecommunications problem which took some time to resolve, Mustain estimated that by the time she left Barbados in August, approximately 65 percent of the catalog records and all high priority items would be converted to machine-readable form. She was also confident that the staff whom she had trained for the task would complete it after her departure. "Everyone has been extraordinarily kind and helpful," she remarked. "It has been very useful to participate in discussions involving long-term strategies for the work of the Cataloging Department and automation projects in general."

Mustain took part in an OCLC Prism training session in Trinidad in late May, where she met most of the other catalogers in the far-flung University of the West Indies system. They discussed common subject-heading and classification problems as well as the division of cataloging responsibilities among them for certain West Indies materials. Comparing how libraries on the various UWI campuses use automated systems was instructive, the Library Fellow reported. Most libraries were using OCLC, but only the law library in Bridgetown was producing full card sets locally. Other institutions created only a shelf-list card or ordered cards directly from the utility. In Jamaica, each card shipment must be opened and cleared through Customs individually, a procedure which often delays the filing of cards. Some UWI libraries already have quite sophisticated online systems. The Virginia Tech integrated online library system is being used by libraries on the campuses at St. Augustine and Mount Hope in Trinidad.

After ten months at the UWI Faculty of Law Library, Mustain felt that the ideal system for the library would be a CD-ROM based catalog with local circulation and acquisition modules. "CD-ROM might be well suited to the region also, because a variety of databases and indexes could then be shared among campus libraries, UWI extramural libraries and small government and court libraries with a minimum of telecommunication and start-up costs."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report is a tribute to the adaptable, adventurous, and resilient individuals profiled on the preceding pages. Their creativity and enthusiasm enabled them to succeed in a new environment and make invaluable contributions to international librarianship. They expanded their own horizons and narrowed the gaps in our global village.

The host institutions also deserve special thanks. They opened not only their workplaces, but also their homes and hearts to the Fellows. To name just a few, the following individuals provided outstanding support to the Fellows: Peter Harvard-Williams, Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Botswana, Gaborone; G. M. Malahlela, Director, Institute of Southern African Studies, University of Lesotho, Roma; Dolores R. de Castro, Coordinador del Postgrado en Gestion de la Informacion, Universidad Simon Bolivar, Caracas, Venezuela; Anibal Puente, Director, Fundacion German Sanchez Ruiperez, Madrid and Antonio Garcia Gutierrez, Facultad de las Crencies de la Informacion, Departmento de Documentacion, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain; Atique Zafar Sheikh, Director General of the National Archives, Islamabad, Pakistan; Directors, National Library of Haiti; Michael Mak, Chief Librarian, Urban Libraries Council, Hong Kong; and Mihalis Tzekakis, Director of Libraries, University of Crete, Rethymnon.

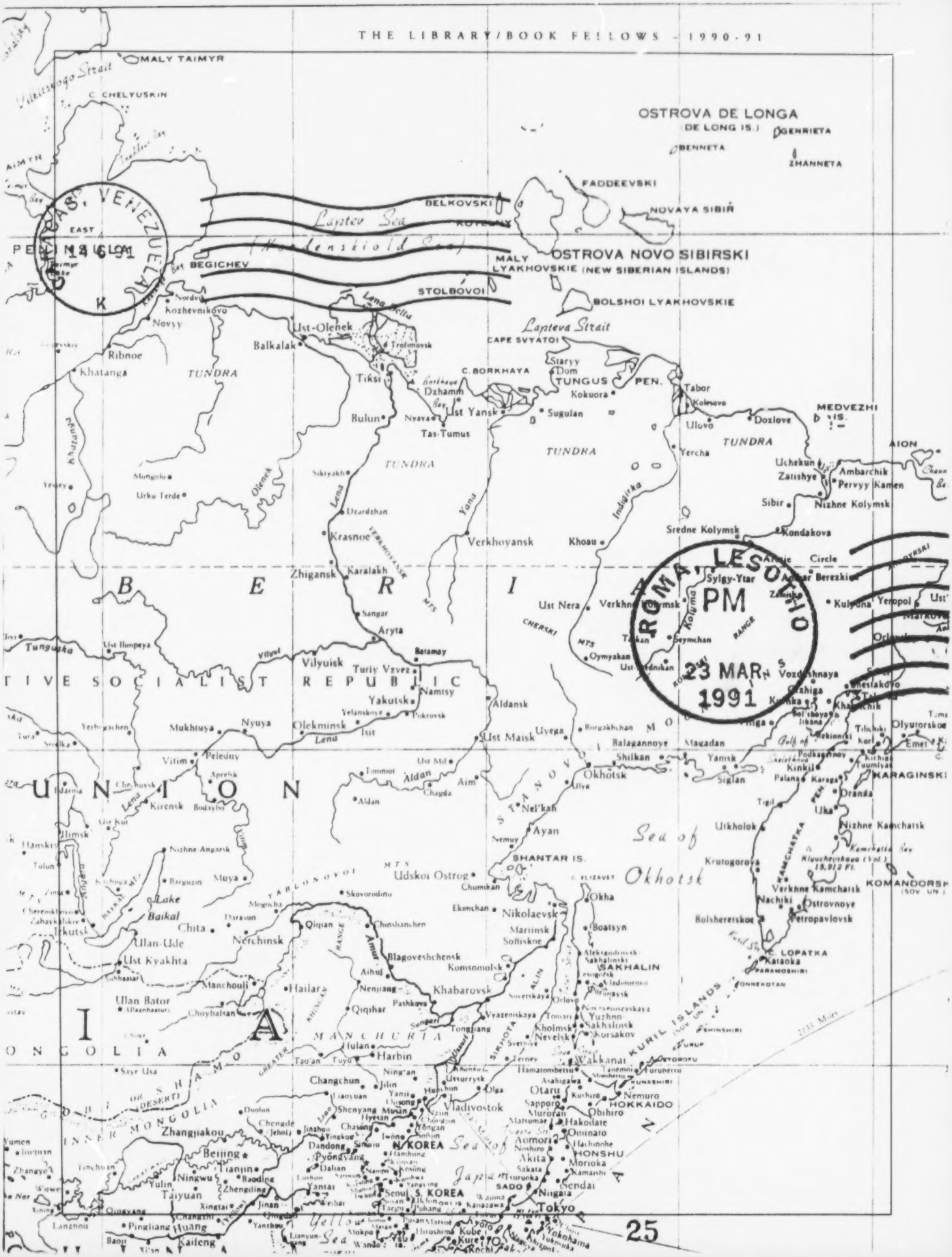
Special appreciation also goes to the United States Information Service employees stationed around the globe at U.S Embassies and in Washington, D.C. Bodil H. Gilliam, Training Officer, USIA Library Programs Division, and Helen Amabile, Deputy Chief, USIA Library Programs Division, deserve special thanks for all their facilitative assistance, and their unfailing support in advancing this program.

Finally, in preparing this final report, Susan Brandehoff ably synthesized the reports and the fellows' correspondence to produce this readable and lucid commentary. Natalie Wargin used her exceptional creative skills to design this handsome report showcasing the Fellows' experiences. Philip Mrozinski captured the Fellow's spirit in his remarkable photographs. These individuals made this report possible.

The dedicated assistance of all these people and many more unnamed made these projects successful. While it is difficult to judge the overall effectiveness or lasting significance of these projects, I hope this report provides an honest and lively profile of each Fellows' experience. I know these experiences have enriched and broadened the Fellows. I also hope the experiences have helped to increase international understanding.

Robert P. Doyle
American Library Association

THE LIBRARY/BOOK FELLOWS - 1990-91



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